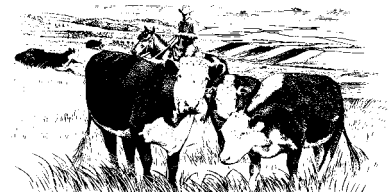


California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: December 30, 1997

(USPS 598-250)
VOL. 19 NO. 12



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Cattle on Feed	1
Commercial Slaughter	2
1998 Release Dates	3
Farm Prices	4

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES 3:00 P.M. EST

Jan. 21	Cold Storage	Feb. 13	Cattle On Feed
23	Cattle On Feed	20	Cold Storage
	Livestock Slaughter		Livestock Slaughter

CATTLE ON FEED IN CALIFORNIA

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in California feedlots totaled 410 thousand head on December 1, 1997, up 5 percent from last month and 11 percent above a year earlier. During November, placements of 75.0 thousand head were up 7 percent from a year earlier. Marketings of 45.0 thousand head were down 10 percent from a year ago. Other disappearance was at 10.0 thousand head.

656 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 674 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 499 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 378 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.67 million, 1 percent below 1996. Other disappearance totaled 85.0 thousand during November, 9 percent below the previous year.

CATTLE ON FEED UP 8 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN MONTHLY STATES

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 8 PERCENT

U.S. cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 11.44 million head on December 1, 1997. The inventory was 8 percent above December 1, 1996. Placements in feedlots during November totaled 2.21 million, 6 percent below 1996. Net placements were 2.12 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were

Cattle on feed in the historic 7 states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.72 million on December 1, 1997, up 8 percent from the previous year and 12 percent above December 1, 1995. Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.83 million, 7 percent below 1996, but 1 percent above 1995. Marketings during November totaled 1.43 million, 1 percent above 1996, but 3 percent below 1995. Other disappearance during November was 69.0 thousand head, 5 percent above 1996 and 13 percent above 1995.

CATTLE AND CALVES: NUMBER ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN 7 SELECTED STATES

State	Number on feed November 1 ^{1/}			Placed During November		Marketed During November	
	1996	1997	1997/1996	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- Thousand Head -----						
Arizona	224	215	96	43	55	24	24
California	355	390	110	70	75	50	45
Colorado	1,080	1,140	106	195	210	160	185
Iowa	315	325	103	80	66	39	35
Kansas	2,170	2,350	108	500	490	410	410
Nebraska	1,890	2,130	113	480	410	310	330
Texas	2,500	2,840	114	585	520	425	400
Total 7 States	8,534	9,390	110	1,953	1,826	1,418	1,429
State	Other Disappearance During November ^{2/}		Number on Feed December 1			¹⁹⁹⁷	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996		
	----- Thousand Head -----					Percent	
Arizona	5	3	238	243	102		
California	5	10	370	410	111		
Colorado	5	5	1,110	1,160	105		
Iowa	1	1	355	355	100		
Kansas	20	20	2,240	2,410	108		
Nebraska	10	10	2,050	2,200	107		
Texas	20	20	2,640	2,940	111		
Total 7 States	66	69	9,003	9,718	108		

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during November 1997 totaled 81.8 million pounds (dressed weight), 13 percent below last month and 5 percent below November 1996. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In November, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,264 pounds; calves, 336 pounds; hogs, 217 pounds.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.45 billion pounds in November, up 1 percent from the previous year.

November 1996 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays. November 1997 contained 20 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays.

Beef production, at 1.94 billion pounds, was down 1 percent from the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.76 million head, down 4 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight, at 1,188 pounds, was up 25 pounds from the previous year.

Veal production totaled 24.0 million pounds, down 21 percent from a year earlier. Calf slaughter totaled 125.3 thousand head, down 13 percent from the previous year. The average live weight was down 28 pounds from last year to 313 pounds.

Pork production, at 1.47 billion pounds, was up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.74 million head, up 2 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year to 260 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production totaled 20.0 million pounds, down 4 percent from the previous record low set in November 1996. Sheep slaughter totaled 309.9 thousand head, 8 percent below the previous year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, 7 pounds heavier than a year ago.

January-November red meat production was 39.5 billion pounds, essentially unchanged at 100 percent of the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated production from last year is as follows: beef, unchanged; veal, down 12 percent; pork, equal; lamb and mutton, down 4 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, NOVEMBER 1996-97 1/

Species & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	- 1,000 Head -		- 1,000 Pounds -		- Pounds -	
CATTLE						
Calif.	87.2	81.2	106,554	102,670	1,222	1,264
U.S. Total	2,872.4	2,764.6	3,340,362	3,284,639	1,163	1,188
CALVES						
Calif.	17.0	15.1	5,589	5,077	328	336
U.S. Total	144.8	125.3	49,345	39,204	341	313
SHEEP & LAMBS						
Calif.	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	335.9	309.9	42,532	41,481	127	134
HOGS						
Calif.	157.7	149.2	34,117	32,335	216	217
U.S. Total	7,619.5	7,742.9	1,959,664	2,015,322	257	260
RED MEAT	November 1996	October 1997 2/	November 1997	Nov. 97 Nov. 96	Nov. 97 Oct. 97	
	--- Million Pounds ---			-- Percent --		
Calif.	86.1	93.6	81.8	95	87	
U.S. Total	3,434.5	4,005.2	3,453.0	101	86	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded. 2/ Revised U.S. total.

FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER BY REGIONS AND UNITED STATES, JANUARY - NOVEMBER 1997 *

Standard Federal Regions a/	Cattle						Calves Total b/
	Total b/	Steers	Heifers	Dairy Cows	Other Cows	Bulls & Stags	
	----- 1,000 Head -----						
1	2.4	0.5	0.4	1.2	0.1	0.2	5.5
2	9.5	1.4	0.6	6.4	0.3	0.8	27.0
3	c/	c/	c/	c/	c/	c/	c/
4	170.6	37.3	9.3	54.7	58.9	10.5	21.3
5	352.6	130.5	60.3	106.8	43.8	11.3	40.2
6	473.7	217.8	158.1	11.3	73.9	12.6	4.6
7	1,190.7	612.6	483.7	13.8	74.5	6.1	0.1
8	256.9	119.3	91.9	3.5	37.3	4.9	0.0
9	116.1	57.1	5.2	37.8	13.3	2.7	17.5
10	125.5	54.0	34.9	10.5	23.5	2.6	5.1
U.S. b/	2,698.0	1,230.5	844.3	246.0	325.5	51.8	121.3
	Hogs				Sheep		
	Total b/	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total b/	Mature Sheep	
	----- 1,000 Head -----						
1	1.8	1.8			1.6	0.5	1.1
2	d/	d/	d/	d/	8.9	2.4	6.5
3	551.1	548.2	2.9	0.1	8.0	0.6	7.4
4	1,156.5	1,077.9	77.5	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.3
5	d/	d/	d/	d/	35.8	4.6	31.2
6	327.7	304.4	23.3	0.1	38.3	3.7	34.6
7	5,039.2	4,866.6	131.7	40.9	51.2	1.8	49.4
8	356.5	329.2	27.3	---	118.8	2.3	116.5
9	d/	d/	d/	d/	e/	e/	e/
10	167.9	167.4	0.4	0.1	35.9	0.4	35.5
U.S. b/	7,600.8	7,295.5	263.1	42.2	299.2	16.7	282.5

* Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

a/ States included in regions are as follows: 1--CT, ME, NH, VT, MA & RI; 2--NY & NJ; 3--DE-MD, PA, WV & VA; 4--AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC & TN; 5--IL, IN, MI, MN, OH & WI; 6--AR, LA, NM, OK & TX; 7--IA, KS, MO & NE; 8--CO, MT, ND, SD, UT & WY; 9--AZ, CA, HI & NV; 10--ID, OR & WA.

b/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

c/ Regions 3-4 are combined for cattle and calves to avoid disclosing individual operations.

d/ Regions 2-3, 5 & 7 and 9-10 are combined for hogs to avoid disclosing individual operations.

e/ Regions 9-10 are combined for sheep to avoid disclosing individual operations.

1998 RELEASE DATES					
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE					
AND CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE					
12:00 NOON RELEASE (* 5:30 AM PST RELEASE)					
JANUARY	9	Cotton Ginnings *	FEBRUARY	4	Dairy Products
		Crop Production *		11	Cotton Ginnings *
	13	Crop Production - Annual *			Crop Production *
		Grain Stocks *		13	Potato Stocks
		Rice Stocks *			Crop Values
		Winter Wheat & Rye Seedings *			Cattle On Feed
		Potato Stocks		20	Cold Storage - Annual
	15	Milk Production			Cold Storage
	16	Turkeys			Farm Labor
		Vegetables		23	Honey
		Vegetables - Annual		24	Chickens & Eggs
	21	Cold Storage			
	22	Non-citrus Fruits & Nuts Summary			
	23	Cattle On Feed			
	26	Cotton Ginnings *			
29	Layers & Egg Production - Annual				
30	Cattle				
	Sheep & Goats				
	Chickens & Eggs				
MARCH	6	Livestock Slaughter - Annual	APRIL	9	Vegetables
	12	Crop Production *			Crop Production *
	13	Cattle On Feed		14	Potato Stocks
		Potato Stocks		15	Hatchery Production - Annual
	20	Cold Storage		17	Cattle On Feed
	23	Chickens & Eggs			Sheep
	25	Cotton Ginnings *		20	Cold Storage
	27	Hogs & Pigs		24	Chickens & Eggs
	31	Grain Stocks *			Meat Animals - Prod./Disp./Income
		Rice Stocks *			Dairy Production - Annual
	Prospective Plantings *	27	Floriculture Crops		
MAY	12	Cotton Ginnings - Annual *	JUNE	12	Crop Production *
		Crop Production *		19	Cattle On Feed
	15	Cattle On Feed			Cold Storage
	18	Milk Prod./Disp./Income		23	Chickens & Eggs
	20	Cold Storage		26	Hogs & Pigs
		Ag. Chemical Usage - Field Crops			Almond Production (Tent.)
	Chickens & Eggs	30	Grain Stocks *		
	Farm Labor		Acreage *		
JULY	7	Non-citrus Fruits & Nuts - Annual	AUGUST	12	Cotton Ginnings *
	9	Vegetables			Crop Production *
	10	Crop Production *		14	Cattle On Feed
	17	Cattle		21	Cold Storage
		Cattle On Feed			Farm Labor
		Sheep		24	Chickens & Eggs
	20	Cold Storage		28	Rice Stocks *
		Farm Production Expenditures			
	21	Ag. Chemical Usage - Fruits			
	Chickens & Eggs				
23	Ag. Prices - Annual				
SEPTEMBER	4	Walnut Production (Tent.)	OCTOBER	8	Vegetables
	10	Vegetables		9	Cotton Ginnings *
	11	Crop Production *			Crop Production *
		Cotton Ginnings *		16	Cattle On Feed
	18	Cattle On Feed		20	Cold Storage
		Cold Storage		23	Chickens & Eggs
	22	Chickens & Eggs			Cotton Ginnings *
	23	Citrus Fruits		30	Rice Stocks *
	25	Cotton Ginnings *			
	Hogs & Pigs				
30	Small Grain Summary *				
	Grain Stocks *				
NOVEMBER	10	Cotton Ginnings *	DECEMBER	11	Cotton Ginnings *
		Crop Production *			Crop Production *
	13	Cattle On Feed		18	Cattle On Feed
		Sheep			Cold Storage
	20	Farm Labor		21	Chickens & Eggs
		Cold Storage		23	Cotton Ginnings *
	Chickens & Eggs	29	Hogs & Pigs		
25	Cotton Ginnings *				

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average Farm Prices Received by Farmers, Cash Basis and C.O.B.					
		California			United States		
		November 1996	October 1997	Nov. 15, 1997	November 1996	October 1997	Nov. 15, 1997
----- Dollars -----							
All Hay, Baled	Ton	110.00	123.00	127.00	92.00	103.00	101.00
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	112.00	127.00	128.00	97.00	109.00	108.00
Hogs <u>2/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	54.40	47.30	45.70
Cows <u>2/</u>	Cwt.	29.00	32.00	32.00	28.00	33.10	31.70
Steers and Heifers <u>2/</u>	Cwt.	57.00	64.50	66.00	68.70	67.30	67.80
Calves <u>2/</u>	Cwt.	55.00	70.00	66.00	61.20	84.30	82.70
Lambs <u>2/</u>	Cwt.	84.00	86.50	84.50	84.60	87.40	---
Milk Cows <u>3/</u>	Head	---	1,240.00	---	---	1,090.00	---
All Milk Wholesale	Cwt.	13.72	12.91	13.30	15.20	14.00	14.30

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole. 2/ Previous month revised to monthly average. 3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.



The Census Is in the Mail

The 1997 Census of Agriculture is coming to a mailbox near you. Take the time to fill out your report form and return it by **February 2, 1998**. It's the law.

All the information you give is completely confidential by law.

Make It Known. . . America Counts on Agriculture



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE